

THE PROPAGATOR

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

PO BOX 1838 WOLLONGONG NSW 2500

APRIL 1981

MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH (EXCEPT JANUARY) AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE CONGREGATIONAL HALL, CORNER OF COOMBE AND MARKET STREETS, WOLLONGONG. VISITORS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND MEETINGS.

NOTICE OF MEETING:

The April General Meeting of the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society will be held on Monday 13th April, at 7.30 p.m., in the Congregational Hall, Coombe Street, Wollongong.

Special feature of the meeting will be the FIND-A-FREQ COMPETITION, in which contestants will measure the resonant frequencies of circuits in sealed containers. Further details, and an entry form, are inside this issue of the Propagator. Entry is free, so bring along your frequency-measuring equipment and have a go.

NEWS FROM MARCH MEETING:

At the annual general meeting held on 9th March, the following office-bearers were elected for 1981: President - Keith Curle VK2OB; Vice-President - Ron Dorin VK2VOE; Secretary - Dave Meyers VK2PBP; Treasurer - Geoff Cuthbert VK2ZHU; and committee men Mike Keech VK2VXS, Jock Taylor VK2JT, Eric Fien VK2YVF, Paul Engbo VK2DTZ, Denis McDay VK2DMR, Brian Wade VK2AXI.

Roger Graham VK2AIV demonstrated his DREAM computer, showing the way in which it could be programmed to generate random morse and print the characters on a TV screen. An impressive part of the demonstration was Roger's nine-foot high program listing - in three columns! Quite a few club members got for the first time some understanding of computer operation, judging by some of the comments in the back row. Our thanks to Roger for a most interesting and informative demonstration.

A mini-auction was held to sell off shack equipment of Rick VK2DAP to help him on his way back to New Zealand, and Rick also won the digital watch in the raffle!

Attendance at the meeting was around the 70 mark.

NEWS FROM FEBRUARY MEETING:

The February meeting was well attended with 68 present. Julian Whichello spoke on the establishment of an FM Public Broadcasting station in Wollongong. Elsewhere in this issue is a further article (which unfortunately missed the last issue). (However, many will have heard the test transmission on 107.9MHz. President Keith was interviewed about Amateur Radio by Dave VK2VAV/YKQ, and several club members provided technical assistance with the test - VK2BDJ, VK2ZVX, and VK2YKQ were a few heard around.)

At last the Datong Morse Tutor, raffle tickets, sellers and buyers were all in the same place at the same time. The raffle was well supported, grossing \$146, which left a small surplus for the Society's funds. Dave Meyers VK2PBP won the draw, so we can now expect Dave to become the local arbiter of C.W. excellence.

SOCIETY SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE:

1981 subscriptions are now due. Post your \$5 with the form in this issue of the Propagator, or fill in a form and pay at the April meeting. Please help the Society by being prompt with subscriptions, and to prevent the computer suppressing your mailing label!

THE KING IS BACK:

In response to queries from many readers, including Fred VK4NOE of Mt. Isa, we are happy to say that the king is back (providing he hasn't zapped the printers).

DX REPORT, MARCH 1981

Well an interesting month, with some very good openings on both 10 and 15 metres.

10 metres: Had a very good opening in the first two weeks of this month, with American and South American stations very strong up to 0900Z. Look out for W6ESJ/MM (the Love Boat from the TV series) active on 28.550 plus or minus on Saturdays and Sundays. KH6FY Tom on 28.580 around 0900Z had a good chat - he runs a mobile whip on top of his apartment with 50 watt output. XELEFT Harry from Mexico around 28.470 at 0200Z. Now listen out for ZS stations around 0700Z short path, very strong. Also on 10 metres, there are still a lot of G, 6M, F, 9W, 9M2, HL, BV, YB, YJ, PP, PY, etc.

15 metres: Very good - still wall to wall JA's, but a lot of European stations from around 0400Z, also Pacific and South American. A new one is T3ØAC on the Gilbert Islands - he comes up on the European net on 21.155 at 1100Z. Also a lot of UK, UA, EA, CT, G, DL, etc., so have a good listen around. Look for 4N7TT special call from YU for the World Table Tennis Championships.

By the time you read this the Lawrence Hargrave Award will be well and truly running, so don't forget to promote it and let stations know you are from Wollongong or Illawarra and a member of the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society.

That's all for this month, so good DX.

73's, Dave VK2PBP.

LAWRENCE HARGRAVE COMMEMORATION

On Friday evening, 27th April, the club station VK2AMW portable was set up in a corner of a marquee in the park by Stanwell Park Beach. By early Saturday morning the Lawrence Hargrave Award was well and truly launched.

The children's kite flying competition provoked mixed feelings - apprehension because reports from schools indicated that our organisation would be overwhelmed with contestants; and disappointment at the small number of contestants which actually turned up.

In the Junior event (12 years and under) there were sixteen entries, prizewinners being: First, Chris McKay from Stanwell Park Primary; Second, Trent Scanlen (age 4!); and Third, Mathew Simpson from Helensburgh Primary. The Senior event attracted only three entrants who therefore all gained prizes - First, Joanne Lewis from Stanwell Park Primary; Second, Andrew Sida from Heathcote High, and Third, Jamie McGarva from Lindsay Park Primary.

VK2AMW continued operation through to Sunday afternoon, surrounded by replicas of Lawrence Hargrave's kites and other displays.

A pleasant surprise occurred at the conclusion of operations when Laurie Bainbridge, president of the Helensburgh and District Historical Society, presented a book on Hargrave to the Radio Society, in appreciation of the Society's contribution to the commemoration. An invitation was also extended to operate again next year, when an even bigger function is being planned.

Our thanks to the many club members who contributed to the weekend and its success, and to Ron VK2VOE in particular for his many months of preparatory work.

LAWRENCE HARGRAVE AWARD - reminder of conditions.

Stations in Australia must work 10 members of the I.A.R.S.
Stations outside Australia must work 5 members of the I.A.R.S.
The club station VK2AMW is worth the award by itself for amateurs inside or outside Australia.

Cost: Within Illawarra only, \$1 or 2 I.R.C.'s (award must be collected personally from a club meeting); For all other awards, cost is \$2 or 4 I.R.C.'s. QSL cards not needed - just send call signs, frequencies, GMT, and payment, to Box 1838 W'gong. Awards Manager is Mike Keech VK2VXS.

QSL INFORMATION

The following information is up to date as from January 1981.

There are two methods by which you may have your cards delivered in Illawarra:

- Method A: posted to you from the QSL bureau - you pay postage.
Method B: posted to your local club (the I.A.R.S.).

METHOD A:

You must periodically send the bureau a stamped self-addressed envelope including callsign. Send only one envelope at a time. Envelope must be NO SMALLER than 16cm x 11.5cm (6.5" x 4.5") for return of cards. Please include extra stamps (not cheque) to cover additional postage if needed. Unused stamps will be returned to you.

A guide to costs (as at January 1981):

- 22c will cover 5mm (approx. 17 cards) in a "PO preferred" envelope.
28c will cover 50g (approx. 15 cards) in a non-standard envelope.
40c will cover 100g (approx. 30 cards).
50c will cover 250g (approx. 75 cards).

As you can see, it is usually only necessary to send ONE PO preferred envelope with a 22c stamp + extra stamps in case more than 17 cards are awaiting delivery. Stamped envelopes of the size 16cm by 11.5cm are available from any post office. PLEASE don't send smaller envelopes or your cards will have to be bent an mutilated.

The address of the QSL Bureau for the NSW Division is c/- P.O., Teralba, N.S.W., 2284.

METHOD B:

Give your name and callsign to our club QSL officers, Mike Keech VK2VXS and Paul Engbo VK2PJF. They can then include you on the green request sheets which they must mail to the bureau each month. Your cards are then bulk mailed to the club, and you can pick them up at the monthly meetings at no charge (this service is only available to W.I.A. members). But remember, if Mike and Paul don't have your name and call, you won't get any cards through the club.

Mike and Paul will also collect your outwards cards at meetings.

Sample envelope size for having cards posted direct from QSL bureau:

A few rules to remember for speedy delivery of your QSL's.

1. Write NO MORE than five (5) words of a personal nature on your QSL cards.
2. Write the callsign of the person to whom the card is addressed on BOTH the front and BACK of the QSL card.
3. Sort all outwards cards into countries.
4. If delivering cards via your local radio club, enclose cards in a rubber band.
5. Notify QSL bureau of any change of address and/or callsign AND the date of the change of callsign.
6. Send ONLY ONE envelope to the bureau at a time. Enclose extra stamps if you feel more than 17 cards will be awaiting delivery. Unused stamps will be returned.
7. Make sure your cards are a suitable size - i.e., about 14cm x 9cm (5.5" x 3.5"). If larger, they will be damaged when folded, any smaller and they may become lost in the card stacks.
8. This service is free to WIA members ONLY. The only costs for WIA members are postage if posted to home address. Non-WIA members are required to pay 5c (FIVE CENTS) for every card handled, plus postage.

REMEMBER - CALLSIGN OF ADDRESSEE ON BOTH SIDES OF CARD.

Continued next page...

QSL CARD DESIGN:

Outline shows optimum card size - no larger.

QSL cards are sent at a "commercial paper rate", so everything possible must be printed on the card. No personal messages of more than five words may be written on cards, or they must be sent direct by you at normal postage rates. Many cards have the following printed information:

Own callsign (usually in large lettering), address (optional), zone (optional), "confirming QSO with..... on (date) at (time) GMT/Local, Freq.....MHz, UR RST....., Rig (or tx, rx), Ant(enna)..... Pse/Tnx QSL, direct/via bureau, 73 de....."

Make your cards no bigger than 14cm x 9cm as this outline shows. Use, if possible, a lightweight card, since the transfer is by weight. Most amateurs have a good range of QSL cards received from other amateurs, so ask to see them.

CLUB CALLBOOKS:

The club has acquired new copies of the U.S.A. and Foreign Callbooks, which will be available at meetings for the use of members.

BELIEVE-IT-OR-NOT-DEPARTMENT

"I can't see that electronics... or computers are relevant to our science courses."

- N.S.W. High School Science Master.

URUNGA CONVENTION:

For those heading North at Easter, this event will be held on Saturday 18th April at Urunga and Sunday 19th April at Bellingen. Foxhunts, movies, displays, etc; trade displays and "horse-trading". Family registration for two days \$17, or OM only \$8. For further information, call in on the Coffs Harbour and District Radio Net, Monday nights at 8 p.m. on 3.610 MHz; or write to Coffs Harbour and District Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 655, Coffs Harbour, 2450; or phone 066-551115; 066-556135; or 065-681470.

WANTED: Sockets for 813 valves - willing to pay good price. See Andrew VK2PHS at meetings, or P.O. Box 1120 Wollongong.

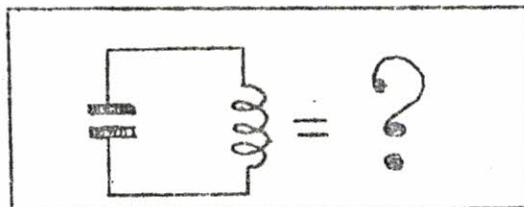
URGENTLY WANTED: One 12-pin socket, female, to suit Creed 7B teleprinter. Phone Jim VK2DLJ on 296329.

FOR SALE: FT200, needs power supply. Complete 10 metres plus handbook. \$265 - John VK2BHO.

FOR SALE: FTV650 - 6 meter transverter with cables and handbook. \$135. John VK2BHO.

FOR SALE: One complete set (5) of new HF mobile helicals made by Lepstick for 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 metres. Antennas are individually adjustable without cutting. Price for complete set \$100. Contact Les VK2ALK - Home (042)563174 or Work (042)281011.

WANTED: Articles for the Propagator - especially technical articles. A short description of anything you have tried, whether successful or not, will help some other club member with a similar problem. Leave articles with any committee member or with Brian VK2AXI.

APRIL MEETINGAPRIL MEETINGFIND+A+FREQAPRIL MEETINGAPRIL MEETING

PRIZES: 1st prize: Winner take all - \$10 voucher on I.A.R.S. store.
 4th prize: \$5 voucher on I.A.R.S. store.
 2nd last prize: Entry fee refunded.

CONDITIONS: (Rules if you like).

1. Fill in the entry form below, or get one at the meeting. Entry is free! If you have more than one dipper, fill in more than one entry form.
2. Frequency limits: 3 to 150 MHz.
3. Dippers may be homebrew, commercial, begged, borrowed, owned (not stolen).
4. No disputes accepted - the Judge's decision is final.

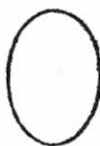
ENQUIRIES TO: Organiser and Judge Extraordinaire, John VK2BH0.

FIND - A - FREQ ENTRY FORM

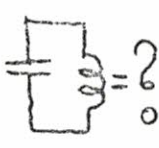
CONTESTANT NAME AND CALL:

IDENTIFICATION (Any Visible Peculiarities):

THUMB PRINT (IF APPLICABLE):



MEASURED OR ESTIMATED FREQUENCIES TO ONE DECIMAL PLACE:

	1	2	3	4	5
	MHz	MHz	MHz	MHz	MHz



WHEN COMPLETED, PLACE THIS FORM IN THE BOX PROVIDED.



RESULT SLIP FOR:

THERE WERE CONTESTANTS ENTRIES. YOU WERE PLACED

JUDGE.



USEFUL INFORMATION FOR TS-120 OWNERS:

The following information should be of interest to TS-120 operators, and comes from a Trio-Kenwood Service Bulletin.

<u>SYMPTOM</u>	<u>REPAIR ACTION</u>
No CW, no audio	Side tone oscillator Q25 on AF GEN unit 2SC 1815.
Receiver sens down	T-1 L34-0696-35 on RF unit shorted.
Analog dial cal OFF	Mechanical adjustment
Carrier in SSB	RF unit D-2 and D-3 shorted. See TKC Service Bulletin.
Loss of digital	Check P-5/J-5 on carrier unit.
Smoke at final unit	Check for long ends of wire shorted to case inside final unit. Also burned L-10 and L-11, L40-1011-04 (100uh).
SSB audio bad	IF shift control turned max CW.
Power on meter MAX	The RF gain control was turned max CCW.
VFO freq. drift	Replace the TEMP comp CAP C-17. See TKC Service Bulletin.
TX audio bad	Check the carrier point adjust and make sure final bias is set to 150 mA.
PLL digital NG	Check D-15 PLL unit.
High IC in RX	Check the final transistors.
15 meters only	The BCD rotary switch has a broken wafer.
RX TX only 10 M.	The BCD divider Q-16, 74LS163 on PLL unit bad.
28.5 HF OSC	Check the BCD inputs against the pin 2 frequency.
No CW filter	Check ground screws and tighten at relay unit X41-1250.
No RX	Solder short across pins 1-2 J-29 IF unit.
Analog dial off	After the CW filter was installed the pins were not cut off shorting the signal to ground.
TX out 40M only	Perform VFO tracking adjustment at 50 & 450.
No 15 M	40 M 50W and 10M 10W bad finals.
3.5 and 7 band same	Core on the VCO transformer for 15M broken.
Low RF out	Shorted trace at Band Switch under IF unit.
No TX all bands	All bands, Q12, SN16913 on the AF gen unit, 2SK19GR bad.
No digital no TX	L-25 open on the RF unit small green inductor.
No RX no digital	Q-12 mixer on the PLL unit bad.
Intermitt SSB audio	Q26 mixer on PLL unit bad.
No key or TX	Pin 5 of J-5 on AF GEN unit loose.
No TX	D-26 and Q-24 2SA562 on AF gen unit bad.
15M osc.	R-8 220 ohm at key socket burned open. Make sure that customer uses shielded line on telegraph key.
No TX	On 15M band only with antenna HF oscillation when first speaking. Install ferrite bead on base of first mic amp Q-18 Af gen unit.
	Loss of AVB voltage at RF unit. Check Q-9 2SA473 on the filter unit. Also check 6 volt Zener diode.

AMATEUR EXAMINATIONS: (from "Mini-Tuned-In", Orange Amateur Radio Club)

There has been considerable discussion on the "68%" syndrome - i.e., the seeming large numbers of amateurs gaining 68% in an examination. The following information was provided by the Dept. of Communication in response to an enquiry from VK4:

NAOCP: Approx 50% of candidates pass with about 6% on a mark of 68%.

AOCP: Approx 30% of candidates pass with about 4.8% on mark of 68%.

"There was nothing to indicate bias, except that AOCP candidates tend to ill prepared." (hi)

FOR SALE: Yaesu FRG7 Receiver 0.5-30MHz. Low mileage, one owner, duco in excellent condition. \$230.
Contact Dave VK2PGV, phone 291773 (home).

All-purpose protest letter

This all-purpose form letter will save you time and composition effort when writing to QST or other amateur publications to complain about those selfish amateurs who clutter the bands with their own silly activities.

To the Editor:

For the umpteenth time I have had an enjoyable QSO ruined by a thoughtless amateur engaged in _____. I resent the attitude of this person and others who feel they are entitled to special rights allowing them to pursue this activity to the detriment of others.

Amateur Radio never was intended to be used for _____ from the amateur bands and allow the vast majority of us to pursue our hobby in peace. I ask for your support.

A Concerned Amateur

* Choose appropriate subject:

Traffic nets	RTTY
Phone patches	QRP
AM	Antenna
DXing	comparison
Contesting	List operation
SSTV	County hunting
Ragchewing	Quoting Wayne
Emergency drills	Green
Round tables	Other _____

— B-Plus, Albany, NY

The split-frequency syndrome

(Part A): If you ever get your VFOs crossed in trying to work someone split, a loud voice will immediately be heard giving your full call sign and telling you that you are a nerd for operating "OUT OF THE BAND."

(Part B): Loud voices out of the band are never identified.

— TRW ARC, Redondo Beach, CA



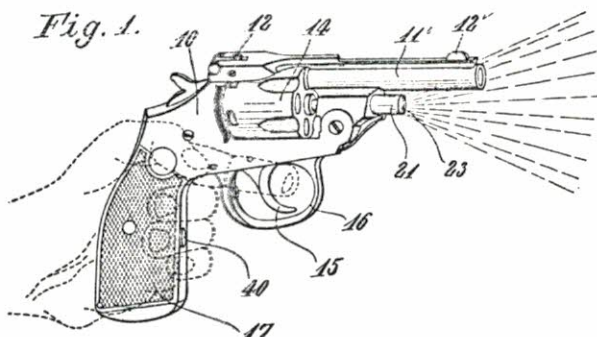
"Do you, WJ8IZE take WB7QXY to be your lawfully wed wife..."

Pixilated Patents

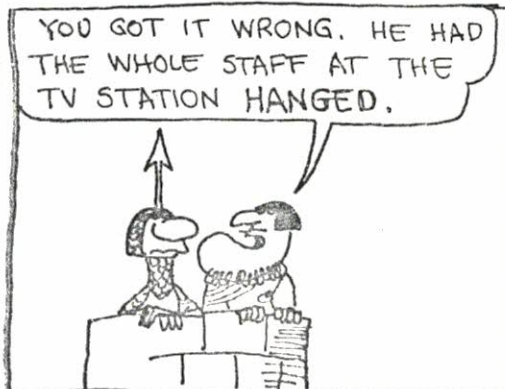
By Mike Rivise

If you are in the market for a searchlight and a pistol, and don't know which to buy, then you might try a device like the one that Joseph Matys patented in 1920 (No. 1,338,239). Called a "searchlight-firearm," it is suggested for "... illuminating a target, thereby materially assisting in the aim of the pistol."

It would seem to be just the thing for walking home late at night. You could use it to find your way through the darkness, or to protect yourself if some unsuspecting would-be robber should challenge you with an old fashioned (i.e., lightless) firearm. As an act of mercy, you could try blinding him with the light before resorting to the use of the firearm. Of course, you wouldn't want to show too much mercy in dealing with such an individual. Instead of you putting him "in the spotlight," he might put you "on the spot" by shooting at you while you were shining at him. Also, you would want to make extra sure that you always knew whether you were pressing the light-button or the trigger. Otherwise, you might wound your neighbor's dog, or even your neighbor, when all you wanted was to "shed a little light on the subject."



There are many other interesting (and dubious) uses for this battery-powered light and pistol combination. For example, it might provide a means for nighttime dueling for a couple of those reckless gentlemen who are willing to fight to the death for the hand of a fair maiden, but who can't wait until the traditional sunrise starting time. Or, it could serve to throw off the customs officials for anyone who is caught gunrunning—it could be claimed that the device was really a toy gun with a built-in flashlight, and who has ever even heard of a flashlightrunner. However, considering the chances of such a device being used by a cowboy in a TV or movie western, the chances seem extremely slim. Somehow it wouldn't seem proper for the bad guy to say, "I'm gonna flood you with 40-candlepower light and fill you full of 44-caliber holes." Or, for John Wayne to answer, "I wouldn't try it fella. I've got you covered with my new Smith and Winchester which has powerful high and low beams and long-lasting rechargeable batteries!"





YOUR CAREER AS A RADIO ENGINEER

When a customer pants into the shop with his set (your delivery van is out of order, as usual) pretend to be engaged in some operation of great delicacy. The illusion may be given by standing perfectly still with both hands inside a disembowelled set, your face turned up the ceiling, your tongue out and one eye tightly screwed up. Sustain this attitude for at least two minutes before saying "Got it!" and putting the thing away out of sight.

It is not necessary to listen to what the customer says, but there is no harm in nodding from time to time. At the end you can say "Sounds like the usual trouble with these jobs," and give the customer's set a disparaging slap. "However," you say, "I'll see what I can do." This should carry an inflexion which suggests that you have taken a personal liking to the customer. He will then thank you very much and say that there is no hurry. As if you didn't know.

When he comes back in a month's time, apologetic, respectful, timidly hopeful, startle him by producing at once from under the counter a handful of pieces of metal, old valves, lengths of wire and rusty screws. Push them under his nose and say "No wonder you were having trouble!" On no account be more specific than this, as you have of course no idea what sort of trouble it was.

He will look at the oddments and say "Good heavens!" - not having any idea what you mean, but hating to seem ignorant. You are on safe ground, because if he weren't ignorant he would have done his own radio repairs. You take up one of the bits of metal and deftly bend it double. "And that," you say, with a snorting little laugh, "was supposed to be your magnetic infranger."

"Good gracious! And was that the trouble?"

"Not the real trouble, no. What do you think of this?" You push a piece of aluminium and a piece of ebonite disgustedly across the counter. "I wonder you got any reception at all with rubbish like that in your thrust-figgler."

"In the thrust-figgler, eh?"

"Well, that was in the thrust-figgler" - you snap the ebonite in half - "but this" - you snatch up a hammer and batter the aluminium out of shape - "well, I don't suppose you will believe me when I tell you what this was part of."

"I've no idea. What?"

"You'll laugh when I tell you."

"Never mind."

"It was the base-nut of the collation baffle!"

"No!"

You then take the customer's set down from the shelf behind you and dust it carefully, handling it as if it were made of gold-leaf. It needs dusting, as it hasn't been touched since the day it came in, except for the tying of a label on the volume control knob.

"However," you say, "I've never been beaten yet - even if I do have to work all Saturday afternoon and Sunday on a job. Four pounds."

The last two words should only be breathed at this stage. Your customer should hear them, but only so faintly as to make him hope that he has not heard them aright. The seed is sown, and the pause which follows should be devoted to reading aloud, but as if to yourself, the writing on the label. Your whole demeanour should be that of a man who is hoping to find some error in the items which would enable him to bring the figure down. Such an error should never be found, however.

"Dismantling, cleaning, overhauling, inspecting," you mutter to yourself - "one pound. Supplying and fitting new gunge-points, feed-arm, worrall-plate, variable gungwinder and burst-refiner: one pound ten shillings."

... continued next page.

"Testing, reassembling, dismantling, inspecting: ten shillings. Supplying and fitting stainless three-pin fubble-nut, re-winding frayed follicle -cleat: eight shillings. Special six-hour bench-test with Ferguson's gullometer extension-arch disclosing faulty bumble-iron: seven shillings. Supplying and fitting double-strength tin-filled bumble-iron with supporting toggle, reassembling, testing: five shillings. Total, four pounds." You look up and smile. "Can't make it any different, I'm afraid."

Your customer is not yet feeling for his wallet.

"I haven't charged you for the two fiddle-pins," you say - "we'll throw them in for good measure."

"That's very kind of you," says your customer, and puts four pounds on the counter.

As he leaves it is as well to mention that it pays to buy a good set in the long run, and that you have a "Golden Monarch" coming in very soon. If you can sell him this you have an income for life: everyone knows that "Monarch" workmanship is so exquisite that even to oil the coils costs twelve pounds ten.

- J. B. Boothroyd, in "The Best Humour from Punch", 1956.

A UNIQUE 80 METRE MOBILE ANTENNA.

How many of us have had difficulty on 80 metres, operating mobile, due to the narrow bandwidth of our whip antenna. This has been even more noticeable with the advent of low power, solid state rigs, which reduce output substantially when "looking into" an antenna which is not resonant at the operating frequency.

I have been using a commercial, centre-loaded whip, and for a long time carried a chart with me showing the length at which the tip should be, for any given frequency. This worked fine, but necessitated stopping the vehicle to carry out the adjustment. To carry an antenna tuning unit in the vehicle was inconvenient, so I decided to build one in. Perhaps others may like to try this idea, it is simple and works extremely well.

I adjusted my whip to be resonant a bit below 3.5 MHz, which meant that between 3.5 and 3.7 MHz it, being too long, exhibited inductive reactance. To cancel this out, I placed a variable capacitor in series at the base of the antenna to produce capacitive reactance. The capacitor is mounted right at the base and is varied by means of a flexible cable with a knob on the dashboard of the vehicle. A 200 pF capacitor was used, which allows a 1 to 1 SWR to be obtained over almost the whole of the band. If you want to work on the high end, it may be necessary to shorten your whip slightly, but two settings will easily cover the whole band.

My whip is mounted on the front of the vehicle, which means I need only a short length of flexible drive cable, but it would not be hard to place the capacitor on a rear mounted whip, as long cables are readily available - have a look at flexible drives for electric drills! If I do not have a VSWR bridge with me, I just peak the capacitor for maximum output or collector current. It works fine - why not try it? See you on 80 metres.

- David VK2BDT in "SWARS Feedback".

BOTTOM LINE:

Out yesterday came a brand new telephone book with more than a million names in it - and a big disappointment for Mr. Ricardo ZZyzz. For fifteen years he has been last name in the Los Angeles directory. Yesterday he lost the honour to a Mr. Zzzyzz Z. Zzzyzz.

- Daily Express.

NEW CALL: Congratulations to our printer Paul on his new callsign -
VK2DTZ - "Double Twisted Zombie" suggested by (who else?)
Jim VK2NYY.

FM STEREO IN WOLLONGONG?

Wollongong Community Broadcasters is a small group of people who have the common goal of establishing a Public Broadcasting F.M. Radio Station in Wollongong. The station, once licensed and operational, will be for the use of local groups and individuals who wish to provide the area with programs of special interest. Music, educational, public affairs, ethnic, religious, children, are only a few of the special interest areas. Since it will not be a profit making organisation it can cater to large as well as very small audiences.

The station could provide valuable publicity for Amateur Radio, with programme material provided by local amateurs.

The station will be mostly operated by volunteers who give their time to announcing, preparing programs, answering phones, program scheduling, promotions, keeping accounts, building and maintaining equipment, etc. There is usually a need for a few paid staff, who can co-ordinate the voluntary effort, to work full time.

Unfortunately a radio station costs a lot of money. A volunteer-run F.M. radio station, capable of servicing the entire area of Wollongong would need at least \$100,000 for equipment and premises. (A typical commercial station operates from an initial budget of more than \$1,000,000.) Some sources of funds include listener subscriptions, donations, sponsorship by business, sale of airtime to participating community groups, and grants.

Test Broadcast:

W.C.B. has been given permission to do a test broadcast in Wollongong. The test, which will be F.M. and in stereo will be conducted over the weekend of 20th to 22nd March, 1981. The frequency is expected to be around 106.5 MHz, and the output power 10 watts, using a transmitter borrowed from 2MBS-FM. The transmission should be vertically or circularly polarized, with the antenna sited on a Telecom tower adjacent to Wollongong Post Office.

Help is needed to arrange programs, promotions, studios and transmitting equipment for this event. If you can assist, or require further information, please phone Julian Whichello, (042)942371 after hours.

SUBSCRIPTION TO THE ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Attached is \$5.00 in payment for membership for the period April 1981 to March 1982.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

POST CODE:

CALL SIGN IF ANY:

WIA MEMBER: YES ☐ NO ☐

DO YOU WANT TO JOIN WIA YES ☐ NO ☐

WANT QSL CARDS AT MEETING

WIA MEMBERS ONLY:

Please send to: The Honorary Treasurer,
Illawarra Amateur Radio Club,
PO Box 1838,
WOLLONGONG NSW 2500

ILLAWARRA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY - INFORMATION

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Second Monday of each month (except January) at 7.30 p.m., in the Congregational Hall, corner of Coombe and Market Streets, Wollongong.

MONTHLY BROADCAST:

7.15 p.m. on the Sunday night before the monthly meeting, on VHF repeater 5, UHF repeater 9, 28.46 MHz, and 3.565 MHz. Broadcast Officer Denis McKay VK2DMR is looking for news items and can be phoned at (042) 847786.

SLOW MORSE BROADCAST:

From VK2AMW on Monday nights (except meeting nights), 7-8 p.m., on 1.805 MHz, in the 160 metre band.

W.I.A. BROADCAST RELAYS:

Sundays at 11 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. through VHF repeater 5.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER:

The Propagator is usually posted to reach members during the week before the monthly meetings. Technical, news, and humorous items are always wanted. "For Sale" and "Wanted" advertisements are published free for members. Send all material to the editor, Brian Wade VK2AXI, at 72 Murray Road, Corrimal, Phone (042) 841381, or in person at meetings. Copy deadline is the last Tuesday of each month.

AMATEUR RADIO CLASSES:

These provide all the theory, regulations, and morse tuition needed to obtain the Amateur Novice, Limited, and Full licences. Classes are held on Fridays, 6-9 p.m. during term time. For further information, contact Keith Curle VK2OB or Denis McKay VK2DMR.

CLUB NETS:

Phone nets are held on 52.525 MHz FM, 8.30 a.m. on Sundays, and on 3.565 MHz, 8.00 pm. on Sundays. An informal morse net is held on 28.46 MHz, 8.00 p.m. on Tuesdays - nervous newcomers to CW are especially welcome on this net.

VHF REPEATER: VK2RAW, Channel 5 (146.25 MHz in, 146.85 MHz out).

UHF REPEATER: VK2RUW, Channel 9 (433.225 MHz in, 438.225 MHz out).

QSL SERVICE: For Illawarra members who are also W.I.A. members, see Mike Keech VK2VXS or Paul Engbo VK2DTZ for inwards and outwards cards. Mike is also Awards Manager for the Lawrence Hargrave Awards.

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES:

For information about W.I.A. membership, and Illawarra Amateur Radio Society membership, see Geoff Cuthbert, VK2ZHU at meetings.

To join the Illawarra Amateur Radio Society, send your \$5 annual subscription to the Treasurer, I.A.R.S., P.O. Box 1838, Wollongong, N.S.W., 2500.

GENERAL ENQUIRIES AND CORRESPONDENCE:

Write to The Secretary, I.A.R.S., P.O. Box 1838, Wollongong. N.S.W.

SOCIETY PRESIDENT: Keith Curle, VK2OB, 24 Beach Drive, Woonona, 2517.

VICE-PRESIDENT: Ron Dorin, VK2VOE.

SECRETARY: Dave Meyers, VK2PBP.

TREASURER: Geoff Cuthbert, VK2ZHU.

COMMITTEE: Mike Keech VK2VXS, Jock Taylor VK2JT, Eric Fien VK2YVF, Paul Engbo VK2DTZ, Denis McKay VK2DMR, Brian Wade VK2AXI.